Dawn Ludwig

Beyond the Basal

Assignment #4- text set

Annotated Bibliography

**Topic:** Acceptance

**Description of the Unit:** Differences are what makes us special and we should embrace our own uniqueness and others should accept us for who we are.

**Grade Level:** 1st grade and older

**Objectives:**

* To teach children that no matter what the differences, we are all special and unique in our own ways.
* To teach acceptance of others for whom they are.

**Texts**

Glen, Maggie (1990). *Ruby.* G.P*.* Putnam’s Sons: New York.

I chose this book because it is about a teddy bear, Ruby, who is accidentally made out of the wrong material. Ruby leads other rejected toy bears in an escape from the toy factory to seek a place where they will be accepted and appreciated. I thought I would start out my acceptance unit with this book because it doesn’t pertain to “real” people and thought the children might be able to relate to teddy bears.

Fleming, Virginia (1993). *Be Good to Eddie Lee.* Philomel Books: New York.

This book portrays the feelings, honesty, and sensitivity of a Down’s syndrome little boy named Eddie Lee. As the story unfolds, Eddie becomes increasingly annoying to the neighbor boy, JimBud, but while exploring in the woods it is Eddie Lee who makes the wonderful discoveries of the water lilies and the frog eggs. Christy was also along on this little nature hike and when she bent over and looked at her reflection in the water next to Eddie Lee she found that her face was distorted by the ripples which made her and Eddie Lee look much the same. Eddie said , “You look funny, Christy, but that’s okay, I like you anyway.” Since schools are leaning more to having full inclusion classrooms it is important for students to be aware of and sympathetic to our special needs students. I really liked how the book showed Eddie’s acceptance of Christy – even though **she** looked funny.

Woodson, Jacqueline (2001). *The Other Side.* G.P*.* Putnam’s Sons: New York.

This book talks about the racial barrier that one generation tries to impose on their children. A black family and a white family live next to one another only they are separated by a fence. There are girls on both sides of the fence but their mamas tell them not to go on the other side of the fence. They say it isn’t safe. Eventually the girls end up sitting on the fence talking to one another and then eventually crossing over the fence and playing with one another. The end of the book says that maybe someday someone will knock down this old fence. It is a subtle way of saying that hopefully one day “the fence” or racial barrier will one day be taken down. This touches on the racial aspect of acceptance with the students.

Cohen, Barbara (1998).*Molly’s Pilgrim.* Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books.

Molly is a young Jewish girl who has recently emigrated from Russia to have religious freedom. The children in her third grade class make fun of her for her accent and her clothes, and Molly doesn’t feel like it is freedom for her. When the class is told to bring in pilgrim dolls for the school’s Thanksgiving display, Molly brings her doll dressed as a Russian peasant girl. The class learns that there are all kinds of pilgrims that celebrate Thanksgiving. We are all pilgrims for that fact. The class can bring in a doll of their own that represents their heritage.

**Video**

*Molly’s Pilgrim*. DVD.(1985) CINE Golden Eagle.

This video won the 1985 Academy Award for best live-action short. It also won an American Film Festival Blue Ribbon. I use it to follow up the book. We compare and contrast the dvd to the book and talk about if the changes enhanced the meaning of the book or detracted from it.

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**YouTube**

Kids acceptance of others.(2008).*ELLIE ELEPHANT by mr. RAY*. Retrieved July 3, 2010 from:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caMeM0aUe_k>

This YouTube video will teach kids about acceptance and tolerance of others. Ellie is a big pink elephant who gets teased a lot about her size but the singer on the video says she’s just full of love. The video tell how this makes her sad when she is made fun of and that instead when we see her we should give her a hug, tell her a joke, or invite her on a picnic. This video not only shows how people feel when they are teased because they are different but ways in which you can make them feel better and include them in your activities.

The unit starts off with introducing the children to stuffed animals and how they feel being different and what they do to make themselves feel accepted. The next books deal with special needs children and racial differences. *Molly’s Pilgrim* talks about immigrants and religious freedom. The YouTube video deals with teasing because of size. This unit takes in a broad spectrum of differences that can be found in people and shows that no matter what our differences might be, we should treat others the way that we would want to be treated.